

price. Habitat for Humanity's ability to offer these goods and services at the ReStore is made possible by the hard work of volunteers and donors throughout the community. By working on behalf of their neighbors, the volunteers of Habitat for Humanity continue to enrich the North Country community.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to thank Habitat for Humanity and its volunteers for providing an invaluable service to the North Country. We are grateful for Habitat for Humanity's commitment to this region, and look forward to the benefits that the ReStore will provide for years to come.

#### CONGRATULATING THE 106TH NATIONAL DAY OF TAIWAN

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate President Tsai Ing-wen and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate the 106th anniversary of its National Day on October 10, 2017.

With the success of its sixth direct presidential election, Taiwan continues to serve as a beacon of vibrant democracy in the Asia-Pacific region.

We just celebrated the 38th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) this past April. The TRA was intended by Congress to endure an important relationship between close friends and allies. I am heartened by the strengthening of ties that have taken place in recent years, from Taiwan's admission to the U.S. Visa Waiver Program in 2012, and the first visit of a Cabinet-level official since the Clinton Administration in 2014. The bond between the United States and Taiwan is stronger than ever.

Taiwan is also a great friend in times of despair. Following the recent devastation of Hurricane Harvey, Taiwan generously contributed \$800,000 for relief efforts. In 2005, after Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, Taiwan, by the same token, offered a helping hand and donated \$2 million.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating our friend, Taiwan, on this important occasion.

#### CELEBRATING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF PPL'S FUSE PROGRAM

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the House's attention the 15th anniversary of FUSE, Pennsylvania Power and Light's employee business resource group for members of the LGBTQ community and their allies.

In 1920, eight Pennsylvania utilities came together to form the Pennsylvania Power and Light (PPL) Corporation. By 1928, the company—headquartered in the iconic PPL building in Allentown, Pennsylvania—would link with Philadelphia Electric Co. to form the world's first fully-integrated power pool.

For nearly a century, PPL has continued to grow and expand. Today, PPL services nearly 10 million customers in central and eastern Pennsylvania, Kentucky, and the United Kingdom. Furthermore, the company employs over 13,000 people.

PPL has demonstrated itself as an impressive business, based not only on its commitment to the greater Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania's 15th District, but also on its commitment to its employees. The FUSE business resource group is a shining example of this commitment.

FUSE was founded 15 years ago to promote and provide an inclusive, considerate, and diverse work environment for PPL employees who identify as part of the LGBTQ community. The program allows LGBTQ employees and their allies to come together to tackle workplace projects and pursue meaningful professional development opportunities. Fifteen years removed from FUSE's founding, PPL's commitment to its LGBTQ employees was honored earlier this year when it was named a 2017 Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

PPL is a valued member of Pennsylvania's 15th District and a respected corporate citizen, powering our communities and providing good jobs and good wages to our citizens.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to offer my congratulations to the men and women of Pennsylvania Power and Light, on the 15th anniversary of the FUSE program's founding. May they continue to be champions of diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

#### CONGRATULATING HAR SINAI CONGREGATION ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Maryland was founded as a haven for freedom of worship, and our state is proud to be home to religious institutions and communities that enrich the life of our state and our country. One of those is the Har Sinai Congregation in Owings Mills. Founded on May 15, 1842, it is the oldest continuously operating Reform Jewish congregation in the United States. This year marks the 175th anniversary of its establishment.

Drawing on practices adopted by some of the first Reform synagogues in Europe, Har Sinai Congregation served a small community of immigrants first in Baltimore and later, as the community grew, in the suburbs. The synagogue's first leader, Rabbi David Einhorn, arrived in 1855 and became one of the central voices of American Reform Judaism in the nineteenth century. The 'Olath Tamid' siddur he published in 1856 went on to become a template for the Union Prayer Book later adopted widely by Reform congregations across the country. Rabbi Einhorn also preached against slavery, a courageous act to undertake in a Southern state where that horrific institution was still practiced. His abolitionism eventually led him to flee to Philadelphia in 1861, escaping a violent, pro-Confederacy riot in Baltimore during the Civil War.

Among the clergy who followed in leading Har Sinai Congregation was Rabbi David Philipson, an American-born scholar and theologian who led the community from 1884 to 1888. A member of the first graduating class of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, he would go on to become one of the most prominent Reform rabbis of his age, authoring books on history, theology, and literature while speaking out against anti-Semitism and, in his later years, the rise of Nazism. Today, the congregation is led by Rabbi Linda Joseph, a native of Australia and the first woman to lead the community, having taken up the pulpit there last year.

Now a congregation of more than 400 families, and with more than 200 students in its religious school, Har Sinai Congregation has become one of Maryland's most active and dynamic synagogues. With the mantra of 'worshipping together; caring together; working together,' its members are putting into practice the ancient Jewish precepts that call for social justice, charitable works, education, and community engagement. On Shabbat and holidays, congregants gather in worship and join in liturgical song, led by Cantor Robert Gerber, as they continue the traditions of American Reform Judaism that Har Sinai Congregation helped establish.

I join in congratulating the clergy, lay leadership, and congregants of Har Sinai Congregation on reaching this milestone in the community's history, and I wish all of them a Shana Tovah U'Metuka—a sweet and happy new year for 5778.

#### CONGRATULATING THE CHINESE AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 2, 2017*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Chinese American Medical Society as they host their 54th Annual Scientific Symposium and Annual Red Lantern Gala.

This year, CAMA is focusing on advancing women's health. Throughout its history as one of the most successful national Chinese American Medical Societies, CAMA has sought to eliminate health disparities for Chinese Americans and other underserved minority populations. Each year, the Symposium is an opportunity for many of medicine's most foremost experts to gather, collaborate and ultimately impact lives.

Their annual Red Lantern Gala is a chance to celebrate the ground breaking work of all those who have dedicated their lives to advancing health and well being for Chinese Americans. I'd especially like to salute this year's honorees: Dr. Anna Suk-Fong Lok with the 2017 CAMS Scientific Award, and Mr. Michael J. Dowling, Mr. Peter Lau and Dr. Wai Lap Leung with the Community Service Award.

I applaud CAMA for their unwavering dedication to improving health outcomes for Chinese Americans both in New York City and around the country.